

JUNE 2022

# Lifeline

*Doing Life Together*

## WEDNESDAY

We have Bible studies for children, students, men and women!

Dinner is served at 5:30pm and Bible Study begins at 6:30pm.

## SUNDAY

10am: Worship with us in person at Crossroads

LifeGroups are at 9am and 11am with childcare, children, and students meeting at 11am

## ONLINE

Join us online for live worship and to catch up on current events and ministries.

[www.crossroads.family](http://www.crossroads.family)





# WHY TITHE?

## A NOTE FROM OUR STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Some believe we give to pay the pastor and the church staff; some believe we give to pay for the church building and everything in it; some believe we give so we can help others in need; and some believe we give because the Bible tells us to. All of these reasons are true. **But the main reason we give is because God gives.** God is our provider. He loves us and takes care of our needs.

**He provided for our most important need by making a way for us to be reconciled to Him.** In John 3:16, Jesus tells us, "For God loved the world in this way: **He gave his one and only Son**, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life."

**He provides for our everyday needs.** In Matthew 6:26-30, Jesus reminds us that God cares for all of nature and tells us not to worry because we know God will care for us abundantly more.

**One way we show our love for God is to give back to God what is already His.** He tested Abraham in this way by asking him to sacrifice his only son, born to him at an old age. In Genesis 22:16-18, God says to Abraham, "**Because you have done this thing and have not withheld your only son, I will indeed bless you** and make your offspring as numerous as the stars of the sky and the sand on the seashore. . . . And all the nations of the earth will be blessed by your offspring because you have obeyed my command." Abraham was willing to give up the treasured son that he and Sarah had been waiting and praying for so long. God not only provided a ram for Abraham to sacrifice instead of Isaac, but he also blessed Abraham and his descendants for generations.

**God encourages us to give to the church.** The word tithe stands for "a tenth" and appears in numerous bible verses. Malachi 3:10-12 instructs us to "**Bring the full tenth into the storehouse** so that there may be food in my house. **Test me in this way,**" says the Lord of Armies. "See if I will not open the floodgates of heaven and pour out a blessing for you without measure."

**Jesus emphasizes tithing.** In Matthew 23:23, He says, "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! You pay a tenth of mint, dill, and cumin, and yet you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy, and faithfulness. **These things should have been done without neglecting the others.**"

In 2 Corinthians 9:7, Paul says, "Each person should do as he has decided in his heart—not reluctantly or out of necessity, **for God loves a cheerful giver.**" If you are not currently tithing, perhaps it is time to start. If you are tithing based on the net proceeds from your income, perhaps it's time to start tithing off the gross. If you're tithing off the gross, perhaps it's time to move from 10% to 10.5% or more. **Please pray for God to guide your heart in your tithes and offerings. Then be faithful to what He is calling you to do.**

# A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

## HELLO CROSSROADS FAITH FAMILY!

WOW!!! This has been an amazing season at Crossroads Community Church! The Lord is working for sure! It is such a great feeling to be walking in His steps and see the fruits of ministry and relationships. Over the last few months we have had over 30 new members into our faith family! Praise The Lord!!!

As I think about the days ahead, I want to encourage you, particularly in the summer months, to press into the 4-A's at Crossroads!

**ATTITUDE**—Watch your attitude and keep focused on the main thing - Jesus and making disciples! We need each other and we need to encourage one another regularly. Our attitude can make or break this - keep it focused on The Lord.

**ATTENDANCE**—The summer is a very easy time to slip when it comes to gathering together. We need one another and being together in work, fellowship, and worship is not only essential, but The Lord tells us not to give it up. You are missed when you are not with the body of Christ!

**ALLOWANCE**—The summer is also a very easy time to slip when it comes to tithes and offerings. We need to be an obedient church and become generous givers. There is much at stake when we are disobedient in this area. There is also multiplied blessings when we are obedient with our allowance.

**ADVANCEMENT**—We need to constantly remind ourselves to stay on mission! Jesus told us to make disciples. I want to encourage you to always see yourself as a disciple-maker, even in the little things. Step into the great world of following Jesus as a disciple-maker and you will be encouraged in your life.

*"My Father is glorified by this: that you produce much fruit and prove to be my disciples." –JOHN 15:8*

And finally, I want to thank you for the opportunity to be on sabbatical. It is a new thing for me too, but I believe it is very important for pastors and churches alike. I am praying for you during this time and I thank you for praying for Pam and me. Pray for us as we rest, refresh, and renew in and through The Lord. I am excited about the days ahead at Crossroads Community Church!

Love Y'all,  
**DR. ROBERT MULLINS**  
*Lead Pastor*



# A PASTOR'S SABBATICAL

## WHAT IS A PASTORAL SABBATICAL?

In Leviticus 25, the seventh year was taken off for planting and working the field. The reason was to give the soil time to recover so that they would continue to produce crops. Jesus also modeled a life of seeking rest, quiet prayer, and alone time with God during his years of ministry on Earth (Mark 1:35, Luke 5:16, 6:12). As a pastor, it is encouraged to take a regular sabbatical for "Soul care." It is a time for the pastor to rest, refresh, for longevity in ministry and be encouraged in physical, mental, and spiritual health.

A Sabbatical affords a pastor the opportunity to step away from his day-to-day responsibilities for an intentional season of rest in order to strengthen his spiritual life and renew himself for future service. Pastoral work does not follow the normal work week, nor does it involve typical workplace concerns. Over time, the rhythms and daily concerns of church life can take a toll on a pastor's spiritual strength. A pastor benefits from separating his spiritual life—for a time—from the weekly rounds of sermons, meetings, appointments, shepherding, and leadership duties in order to engage with God in new and different ways. Churches receive the benefit of a spiritually refreshed and renewed pastor who returns more eager and passionate to serve.

## 5 REASONS YOUR PASTOR SHOULD TAKE A SABBATICAL (THOM RANIER, CHURCHANSWERS)

1. A pastor has emotional highs and lows unlike most other vocations. In the course of a day, a pastor can deal with death, deep spiritual issues, great encouragement, petty criticisms, tragedies, illnesses, and celebrations of birth. The emotional roller coaster is draining. Your pastor needs a break—many times a break with no distractions.
2. A pastor is on 24-hour call. Most pastors don't have an "off" switch. They go to sleep with the knowledge they could be awakened by a phone call at anytime of the day. Vacations are rarely uninterrupted. It can be an exhausting vocation, and a sabbatical can be a welcome time to slow down.
3. Pastors need time of uninterrupted study. It doesn't usually happen in the study at church or home. There is always the crisis or need of the moment. Church members expect sermons that reflect much prayer and study. The pastor's schedule often works against that ideal. The sabbatical can offer much needed, and uninterrupted, study time.
4. Pastors who have sabbaticals have longer tenure at churches. Though my information is anecdotal, I do see the trend. And while I cannot prove a cause-and-effect relationship, I feel confident that pastors who have sabbaticals are much more likely to stay at a church because they are less likely to experience burnout.
5. Pastors who have sabbaticals view the time off as an affirmation from their churches. I have heard from many pastors who share with me a sentence similar to this one: "I know my church loves me because they give me a sabbatical." Pastors need affirmation. Sabbaticals can accomplish that goal.

## WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHILE PASTOR ROBERT IS AWAY?

- During Pastor Robert's leave, our church family will be well taken care of by church staff, deacons, and other church leaders.
- The ministerial team will continue to press on in vital ministry.
- The preaching will be wonderful each week and will continue in the HIGHER: The Sermon on the Mount Series.
- Pastor Robert will return from Sabbatical Sunday, July 31st.

***PLEASE PRAY for Robert & Pam during this season of extended sabbath.***



**FATHER'S DAY**  
*Fish Fry*  
\$5 PER PLATE

June 19 | 11AM-12:30PM  
North Ridge

Sign up today at  
[crossroads.family/fishfry](https://crossroads.family/fishfry)



**Next**  
**Women on Mission Meeting**  
June 7th  
9:30am  
Fellowship Hall



**HIGHER**  
*Sermon on the Mount*  
CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH

Order your HIGHER T-SHIRTS by  
Wednesday, June 15!

Available in sizes Adult S-3XL  
(Gildan softstyle tee, Dark Chocolate)

**[crossroads.family/higher](https://crossroads.family/higher)**

# VBS 2022

We are super excited about VBS 2022 coming up at Crossroads Sunday–Thursday, June 26–30. The Spark Studios theme leads children to learn that the Master Artist is working to redeem, reclaim, and transform His creation to the design He planned for each of them. Kids will discover the beautiful truth of Ephesians 2:10 that they are God's workmanship as they explore their talents to bring glory to Him.

We will begin each evening with a family style dinner at 5 P.M. We offer this to our guests for free, and ask that Crossroads members pay per our usual Wednesday family meal at \$5 per person with a \$20 family max.



We will kick off with Opening Rally in the Sanctuary at 5:45 P.M. From there the kids will rotate to Bible Study Studio, Missions Workshop, Music Sound Stage, Recreation Station, and Crafts Design Center. We will end our Closing Rally in the Sanctuary at 8:30 P.M.

VBS is designed for kids 3 years old through completion of 6th grade. You can register your kids at [www.crossroads.family/vbs-register](http://www.crossroads.family/vbs-register).

We ask that everyone

spend time praying for this event: for the children that will come and volunteers that will lead. Now is the time to invite all your family and friends and get them registered. T-shirts are on sale now through June 3 and available to purchase at [www.crossroads.family/vbs-shirts](http://www.crossroads.family/vbs-shirts).

**We are still in need of additional volunteers!!** This is such an incredible way to serve God and love on kids!! Please let Chelsea Kellum know if you can help. A mandatory—but oh so fun—Volunteer Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 22, at 6 P.M. in the Sanctuary.

## SUMMER ADVENTURES

**Movie Day @ CCC**  
FRIDAY 6/3 | 10a-11:45a | CROSSROADS CC FELLOWSHIP HALL

**Tour the Biblical History Center**  
THURSDAY 6/16 | 9:15a-6p  
130 GORDON COMMERCIAL DR, LAGRANGE, GA 30240

**Picnic & Water Fun @ Gold Star Park**  
TUESDAY 7/7 | 10a-12p | 212 S MAIN ST WETUMPKA, AL 36092

**Water Day @ The Pasleys**  
TUESDAY 7/19 | 10a-12p

**FOR KIDS TOGETHER WITH THEIR FAMILIES!**



@MyCrossroadsCC  
[www.crossroads.family](http://www.crossroads.family)

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